

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" as indicated below. For the sake of convenience and ease of identification, the paragraphs are referred to by their paragraph numbers as set forth in the published application.

[0009] One aspect of the invention provides blood processing systems and methods comprising a blood processing set that includes a source of blood cells and a blood component collection flow channel coupled to the source of blood cells. The blood component collection flow channel includes a blood cell storage container and an in-line filter to remove leukocytes from the blood cells before entering the blood cell storage container. The in-line filter includes esing a fibrous leukocyte removal filter medium; and first and second flexible housings, ~~and a unitary, continuous peripheral seal~~. ~~The peripheral seal is characterized by being formed by application of pressure and radio-frequency heating in a single process, to join the first and second flexible housings to each other, as well as join the fibrous filtration medium to the first and second flexible housings.~~ The blood processing system further includes a pump station adapted to be placed into communication with the blood component collection flow channel to pump blood into the blood cell storage container through the in-line filter. , and includes a separate restraining structure contacting an outer surface of each of the first and

second flexible housings to restrain the outward expansion of the first and second flexible housings as a result of pressure applied during operation of the pump station.

Please delete paragraph [0010].